

Response to Department of Telecommunications
and Energy
First Set of Information Requests
Persons Responsible: James Wojcik and Counsel

Blackstone Gas Company
DTE 04-14

**FIRST SET OF INFORMATION REQUESTS OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY**

**BLACKSTONE GAS COMPANY
D.T.E. 04-14**

Question:
DTE 1-1

Refer to the Company's Filing at Form A. Please give a detailed explanation as to why the Company calculated a negative number in the Unaccounted for Gas SQ measure.

Response:

For several months the meter that measures receipt of gas through the Tennessee Gas Pipeline System was not operating correctly. The adjustments agreed to by the pipeline and used by the gas supplier were less than actual receipts. The Company provides its meter data to the pipeline in those situations. The meter readings of the retail customers is in ccf while the billings from the pipeline are in dekatherms. The average delivered gas is about 1,040 Btu/ccf. The Company has reviewed its sales figures which do not in any case indicate abnormal customer usage based on the weather during the year. The result benefits customers.

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Question:
DTE 1-2

Is it possible for a customer's meter to display a negative number with regard to monthly gas consumption? If so, what steps would the Company take to correct the problem?

Response:

No, unless meter is broken. If meter is broken or damaged the Company estimates usage based on past history normalized for weather.

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Question:
DTE 1-3 Please explain why Blackstone did not perform customer surveys for 2003.

Response: The Company did not understand that an annual survey was required.

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Question:
DTE 1-4

Please explain how the Company calculates the number of responses to Odor Calls. Specifically, if the Company receives more than one call regarding the same odor source, does the Company count this as one call or as multiple calls?

Response:

Each call received is considered a separate odor call even if from the same source.